

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The following paragraphs will replace all prior versions:

TITLE: Method for network capacity planning with proper accounting of spare capacity

[0008] FIG. 1 illustrates a block diagram of a communication network comprising a plurality of nodes and a plurality of links; ~~and~~

[0009] FIG. 2 illustrates a flowchart of a method for introducing new factors to properly account for the benefits of spare capacities in a network[[]]; and

[0009.1] FIG. 3 illustrates a high level block diagram of a general purpose computer suitable for use in performing the functions described herein.

[0024] To better understand the present invention, a description of the components of such communication networks is provided below. FIG. 1 shows an exemplary communication network 100 of the present invention. The communication network 100 comprises a plurality of switches (SW)101-106 and links 111-117. A plurality of circuits 121-122 can be deployed via the communication network 100. ~~It should be noted that only circuit 121 is illustrated in FIG. 1.~~